

Greyhound Investors unanimously approve option to purchase by Menominee

Major step of a very long process to secure an offreservation casino in Kenosha

> Devan Miller & Trilby Beauprey McIntosh Menominee Nation News

On Tuesday, January 6, 2004 the Menominee Indian Tribe reached an agreement with Dairyland Greyhound Park Investors on an option to purchase the Greyhound Dog Track in Kenosha for \$40.5 million.

The Greyhound Dog Track is located on interstate 90 near Kenosha, between Milwaukee and Chicago.

John Wilhelmi, Tribal Attorney stated, "It's a better deal than the last option to purchase, approximately \$9 million less. He also explained, "The option is in place until June of 2006 but it can be extended. Please keep in mind, at this point, the Menominee Tribe does not own the Dairyland Greyhound Track, this is just an option to purchase.

If purchased, the Tribe's plans are to build a casino and entertainment destination center at the site. The agreement is a major step in developing a gaming facility. The Tribe also plans to keep the greyhound track in operation and is exploring other entertainment options. Although the sale option was approved unanimously by the Dairyland investors, the Tribe's plan of building an off-reservation casino is subject to local, state and federal

Above-Shown is an aerial view of the Dairyland Greyhound Park (left corner) and land (right) that the Greyhound Park Investors agreed sell for to \$40.5 million.

Inset-Pictured is the front entrance to the Dairyland Greyhound Park.

approval. Menominee tribal Chairman, Joan Delabreau commented, "No one has promised us anything."

In the coming weeks, Menominee will begin discussing proposed intergovernmental agreements with the City of Kenosha and Kenosha County. Agreements must be reached before the Tribe can submit an application to the Department of Interior to put the land into trust for gaming. What needs to be done (key

parts), according to Wilhelmi, is "Getting the Land into Trust application together and that involves having a business plan and architectural drawings and all that done. That is in the process of being done. Developers have hired people to do that. And also some environmental work which might take a little longer but, again, developers are in the process of hiring someone to do that." He explained, "The hope is the application will actually be in the

Bureau's hands no later than June."

The BIA must determine whether the proposal will be in the best interest of the tribe and not detrimental to the surrounding community. Gov. Jim Doyle must concur with the Bureau's determination, before the Bureau can grant final approval. There is no deadline for the Bureau to act on this matter. Although there is no official word,

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Menominee Nation's Newest Baby



T. Beauprey McIntosh

Mom and Dad, Mary and Chad Nunway admire the newest member to their family, Emma Rae Nunway, the first born Menominee of 2004. Emma Rae was born Sunday, January 04, 2004.

See Baby on pg. 4

